

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:

Karel F. A. A. Smits et al.

Examiner:

Joseph Machuga

Serial No.:

10/045,850

Group Art Unit: 3762

Filed:

01/09/2002

Docket:

P-9499.00

Title:

METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR IMPARTING CURVES IN

IMPLANTABLE ELONGATED MEDICAL INSTRUMENTS

AMENDMENT

Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

The following is in response to the Office Action mailed October 23, 2003, having a three-month statutory period for reply set to expire on January 23, 2004. The following amendments and remarks are respectfully submitted in advance of the expiration of said period for reply.

Pursuant to the Office Action claims 1-25 are pending in the application, claims 1-7, 13-15, 18-21 and 23-25 stand allowed, claims 8-12, 16, 17 and 22 are rejected.

Please amend the above-identified application as follows: